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The Long Island FISHERMAN

JULY 18th, 1974, ISSUE No. 27

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

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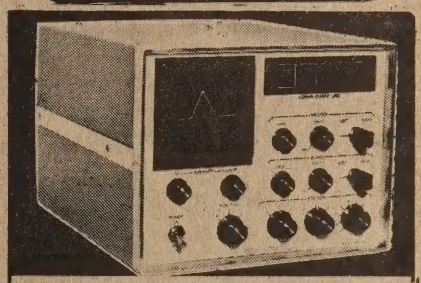

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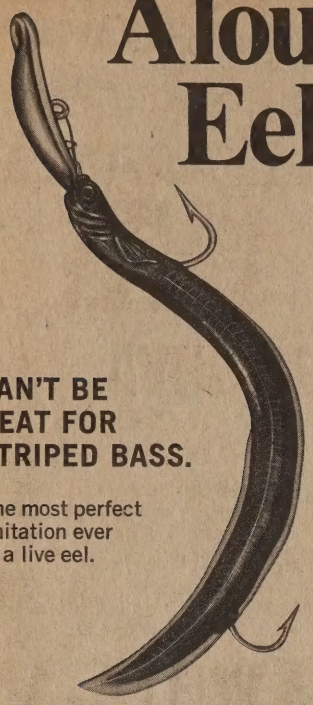

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Chum Lines

The writer of a recent letter castigated us for not having this column as a regular feature. Other letter-writers were mildly reproachful because they did not get their letters published. All right. We give up! Beginning with this issue, we will print (and answer, when an answer is required) as many of your letters as space allows in each issue.

Some letters have been published in the past, many others have been responded to with a personal letter. In some cases letters have not reached us, or have been misplaced, and—oh, shame—a few have not been answered because we simply did not have the time to answer everyone. For that we apologize, and will try to do better in the future.

But beware, if you are the timid sort and embarass easily; we will answer the letter as honestly as we are capable of answering. If you are at fault—have no doubt on this—we'll tell you so. If we are wrong, we'll eat crow, although there is far better dining fare.

To avoid as much confusion, error, delay...what have you, address all letters to: Chum Lines, Long Island Fisherman, P.O. Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.

The following are the more frequently asked questions, and their answers, that have been submitted recently by the readers:

Deformities

I recently caught some striped bass which had deformed tails (heads, etc.). They otherwise appeared healthy. What causes this? Are they safe for human consumption?—Stefan Zgutowicz, Glen Oaks, N.Y.

Our apologies to Mr. Zgutowicz. His original letter and photo were misplaced. The photo was later found—after he became justifiably upset and wrote a second time to query us.

We will put Doc Muller on the spot, because we are going to ask him to write a short article on fish deformities and diseases that are likely to be encountered by anglers. We would appreciate it if Mr. Zgutowicz would allow us to keep the photo until Doc examines it. The article should answer the many questions we have received about these phenomena.

Lawbreakers

What can we do if we observe activities that appear to be illegal on or around our waters?

The D.E.C. has advised us that citizens should report such incidents to their nearest D.E.C. Conservation Officer, listed in the White Pages in your Telephone Directory under "New York—State of " " Environmental Conservation, Dept. of".

We would like to add that the wise person will ask the name of the person to whom he is talking, then call back later to determine what action was taken. If you have any problems, write to us—with the details—and The LIF will try to determine what happened and why.

Fishing Reports

Your fishing reports are submitted by commercial interests who will lie in order to lure the fisherman out to spend money. Why do you allow this?

Most fishing reports we receive are accurate at the time they were given; sometimes we discover conflicts between actual fishing on a certain day in an area, and the report. When this occurs, we advise the tackle store owner, livery man, or who ever gave us the report, that we have discovered his attempt at deceipt, and a second "mistake" means we will no longer call him for information, or refer fishermen to him. We have done this on several occasions in the past, and we shall continue to do so in the future, even though those involved are advertisers.

Tide Tables

Why don't your tide tables agree with (newspapers)?

Tide tables in The Fisherman are those prepared by NOAA. The only doctoring we do is to make whatever correction is necessary to adjust the hours quoted from Standard Time to Daylight Savings Time so they will correspond to your wristwatch or clocks at home. You read the information directly, without adding or subtracting an hour.

Incidently, many fishermen are confused about water still moving when the table indicates high tide or low tide. Scott Simons has prepared an article on

tides and currents that should be of help. We will publish it as soon as space permits.

Fish Hogs

You say you're conservation and ecology-oriented, yet you continue to print photos of disgustingly huge catches of fish. You guys are full of bull!

Newspapers print pictures of muggers, rapists, arsonists, murderers. Does that mean they favor these brutal forms of human activity? We are a newsmagazine and we are obliged to print the news, like it or not. We print as few of these photos as is necessary in our attempt at covering the fishing scene. For the record, though, this type of activity by fishermen sickens us more than you, and you'd be surprised at how many photos we receive that turn our stomachs.

On the other hand, where are the photos from you anglers that caught a few fish and had a great time? We don't get too many of those, so don't complain! A bass sharpie will pick up a couple of 40-50 pound fish, then—a month later—send in the photo. Why? Because he doesn't want company in a hotspot that will hold the fish for only a few days, or a week or two at the most. C'mon! Use your heads! Give not, get not! Send in your CURRENT, BLACK/WHITE PHOTOS. No color, please. Send to Fishing Photo, c/o The Fisherman.

Launching Ramps

Where can I launch my trailer boat?

Send one dollar to the Nassau County Fish & Game Asociation, P.O. Box 245, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11570, and request their list of public and private launching ramps in Nassau-Suffolk.

Fishing—No Boat

Where can I go fishing where I don't have to have a boat?

Many places are available to you, from Sheepshead Bay to Montauk Point, and relatively few are available from Orient Point to Flushing Bay—if you are not a resident or do not have permission to use private property as access to a beach.

Best bets: Contact The Long Island State Park Commission at Babylon and request information about shore-fishing facilities at Jones Beach, Captree, Hither Hills, Sunken Meadow, Robert Moses. Also write to local towns' chambers of commerce for this information, since shorelines generally come under township or village regulations. Try fishing Shinnecock Canal. What's in season? Call local tackle dealers or read The Fisherman, The Long Island Press, etc. for current information. If some enterprising reader would like to submit an article (or series!) on where to fish from shore, how to get there, what to fish for, and what baits, rigs and lures to use on Long Island, we would be eternally greatful. It would be one helluva story!

Poetry

Our thanks to the readers who have submitted poetry for publication, but we will not be printing these poems unless reader interest is indicated through our chum lines mail. Let your views be known, if you care enough.

Photo by Dick Mermon

LONG ISLAND BASSMASTERS OF NEW YORK

Despite the steady downpour of precipitation at Stump Pond (Blydenburg Park, Smithtown) on Sunday, June 2, 1974, members of the Long Island Bassmasters during their first seasonal tournament worked every type of structure available with top water plugs and spinner baits for the many twelve-inch black bass that reside in its water.

Early in the contest feminine shrieks from Celeste Lorfanfant of New York City and Baldwin resulted in a huge seven pound six ounce black bass that took largest and overall winner of the contest. Celeste is no novice in the angling field as she is a field testor for Jim Bagley Bait Co., Winter Haven, Florida.

A five pound bass taken and released alive by John Schroeder of Commack placed second in the contest.

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News Releases

1973 TIDAL WETLANDS ACT IN EFFECT

Rules and regulations implementing the Tidal Wetlands Act of 1973 have been adopted by the Department of Environmental Conservation and are now in effect, Commissioner James L. Biggane announced on July 11.

The rules and regulations continue a temporary moratorium prohibiting any person from altering or adversely affecting the condition of any tidal wetland without obtaining a permit from the Department. Persons planning to engage in any activity that may affect an area that might be a tidal wetland should contact D.E.C. regional offices at Stony Brook, New York City or New Paltz to ascertain whether the area is a wetland.

Under the Tidal Wetlands Act, the Department is undertaking an inventory of tidal wetlands in the State, making extensive use of aerial photography and mapping techniques. Tentative boundaries will then be established and after public hearings are held, final boundaries will be established and land-use regulations adopted.

In the interim, violations of the moratorium are subject to a fine of not less than $550 for the first offense. For further information, call: Arthur Woldt (518) 457-5400.

THE ATLANTIC COALITION

The last meeting of The Atlantic Coalition on June 5, 1974 yielded significant results and promise for the future. The outcome of meetings with several public officials and organizations was reported, and a group of research programs have been proposed for subsidy by the Striped Bass Fund.

Meetings with the Village Planning Committee of Atlantic Beach yielded support for TAC by that group. A meeting with Senator Norman Levy produced the promise of Senatorial study of methods of sludge disposal as an addition to the Pure Water Act, now in Congress. The Committee for Water Preservation of Suffolk County will be working closely with TAC to encourage popular support to end dumping and outfall discharge. The total effect of these meetings has yet to be felt, but they represent a start in terms of achieving our goals.

After presentation, by three speakers, on alternatives to sludge dumping, it was proposed by Mr. Rod Vandivert that programs of data collection and research be undertaken. It is important that all members collect information (newsclippings, books, articles, references, etc.) and send them to us so that we may begin to prepare a bibliography of sources on ocean disposal of wastes and alternatives. We hope to build a case composed of enormous amounts of literature and evidence. This case will be presented to Congress.

A great deal of expertise is now required by TAC. Since many organizations support the Coalition, each group must provide input. It was decided that the dump sites be mapped at their periphery and analyses be made upon the tissues of fishes in and around the dumping grounds. Divers are needed for bottom sampling and spearfishing. Small boats are needed for monitoring and sampling of coastal outfalls. Fishermen are also needed to help in the sampling. Collection kits will be provided. A press boat is being provided by the public relations committee. Volunteers for lab and library research work are also needed. All interested groups, and individuals should contact me at the Coalition address or by phone (516-623-7374).

TAC has, over the past few months, been gathering together the forces willing to fight to save the ocean. Now the time has come for the troops to march. This letter represents a call to arms. We are ready to make war on those who would destroy our ocean. We will succeed. The Ocean Shall Not Die!gary S. Kleppel.

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CLUB NEWS

Clubs—please submit your news release to: CLUB NEWS, care of The Long Island Fisherman, Box 143, Deer Park, N.Y. 11729.

AMITY HARBOR FISHING CLUB

The members of the Amity Harbor Fishing Club would like to thank LIF for mentioning our Chopper Roundup bluefish tournament scheduled for this July 20th.

We thought that since our male members would be busy with tournament duties, the women would serve as our club entry.

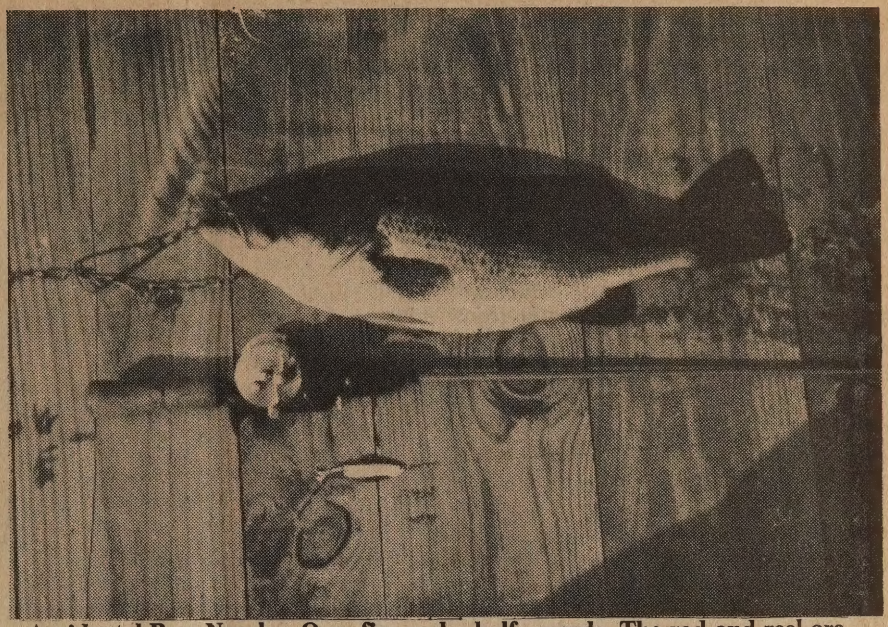
The Raven, skippered by Al Miller, will fish with Myra Russo, Harriet Miller, Lillian Miller, Jennette Schavel, and Marion Diange.

Ted Crocker and his Snoopy II will fish with Muriel Crocker, Vi Patterson, Carol Hooper, Sharon Crocker and Sabina Winter.

We would like to offer our best wishes to all the clubs and individuals who have entered our Third Annual Chopper Roundup. Good Luck!

Accidental Bass

by Ron Miller



Accidental Bass Number One: five and a half-pounds. The rod and reel are over twenty years old.

The largemouth bass is reputed to be a wily denizen of the deep, not easily outsmarted by your run-of-the-mill angler unless perhaps by accident. The following accidents are now looked back on as humorous incidents, but they weren't funny at the time. Actually, they were ve-e-e-r-r-ry educational. Much has been said and written about S-L-O-W fishing Ole Bucketmouth, and here, I think is extra proof.

Accident Number One was the time, during a very hot summer weekend, when I was about to give up fishing for something equally exciting—like breakfast—when I heard this tremendous splash out on the pond on the other side of the lily beds. I quietly rowed out to deep water, put a Daredevle spoon on my old baitcasting outfit, and started casting and retrieving like mad in the direction of the spot where I had seen little fish trying to escape a big one. (For a minute, I thought I had lost my sanity, and there were bluefish chasing bunker in this freshwater pond, but this was too far inland.)

After a dozen futile attempts at raising the lunker I was sure was down there, I realized I had a slight fouling in the reel spool, so I made a long cast out to deep water in the center of the pond to get line off the reel and clear up the looseness. Naturally, to add to the aggravation, I got a backlash. I dug out the crochet needle I stole from Grandma years ago for this purpose and began to untangle the mess. Near the end of the tangle I found the line had gotten caught between the spool and the housing and when I tried to free it, the line was severed.

Okay, this isn't my day, I thought, and remembered the new Daredevle lure still out there somewhere on the bottom of the pond.

I carefully tied a bloodknot in the line, trimmed it down, and began to reel in slowly, not knowing what the lure may have snagged on. While I was getting the backlash untangled and the line tied back together, my boat was slowly drifting over the lily pads toward shore, naturally dragging the lure along on the bottom with it. When I started to reel in, I was right on the target I had been trying to reach all along.

Suddenly, all Hell broke loose on the outside of the lily pads, and I at first thought I was caught on a log until I realized the log was going all over the place. I can't express my exact words here. Let it suffice to say they were pretty expressive.

I had caught bass before, two-and three-pounders, but when I saw this one, I was dumbfounded. This was a real lunker class, five and a half pound, twenty-one inch beauty that I caught by accident, and landed after horsing it through half the weed bed in the pond. It filleted very nicely and was delicious, thanks.

Accidental Bass Number Two was on Election Day last year, when I learned to drift Lake Ronkonkoma as the winds will take you in order to get bass. When drifting, I usually let two or three rods troll the ubiquitous purple worm in varied sizes and decorations. One looks like it has white measles, another is prerigged with little beads and a bright shiny propeller, and the third is just under python-sized, with a big momma hook in its head.

I was working one rod, the lightest of the three (all spinning rods), and this one had been giving me some trouble due to the very stiff nature of the eight-pound mono line. I missed what looked like a helluva rap on my new Garcia 510 rig, put that down, and went back to the problem rod.

The measled worm was dragging bottom somewhere about seventy-five or a hundred yards out from the boat, and the line was caught behind the spool on the (insert your own word) reel. I removed the spool, and was unwinding the lovely (Heh. Heh.) line from the mechanism when I felt a little tap, then another. Why me, God? I thought, and reared backed on the dismantled rig.

Sure as life, there it was, another big bass, and me with my spool down again. What else could I do? I put the reel back together (did you ever see a guy with ten thumbs?) and fought that bass in with a loose drag and with line piling up behind the spool like crazy. This bass weighed in at just under five pounds, was twenty inches long, and gave me the best fight I have ever had. It also added to my fisherman's education.

I have caught other bass ranging one to three pounds mostly on relatively fast retrieves or in one case still fishing with live nightcrawlers. But, I have been convinced. The way to hang those lunkers is to retrieve that lure as slowly as you possibly can...then do it even slower next time!

Striper Striking Strategies

Part II by Dr. William A. Muller

In part one we established that bass may be encouraged to strike a bait for reasons besides hunger. During the long summer feeding period the bass may not migrate far from established territories, and they may be induced to strike by repeatedly working a plug behind a large rock or across an underwater obstruction. Then too, bass which have been feeding heavily may continue to respond to cast lures, but without the intention of further consumption.

We remind the reader of an earlier note. That is: These articles are a collection of experiences and the interpretation of those experiences, and there is no intent to convey the impression that they are authoritative conclusions based upon hard data. The data is unavailable because the research has not been done and, since significant funds are at present not being allocated for research into the behavior of our coastal fishes, we will continue to make educated guesses and exchange experiences on the beach or across a table.

The most unusual striking behavior that I've come across has to be what I call the "strikeless strikes." On such occasions the angler never feels the hit, even with the lightest tackle, and the only way to catch these bass is to establish a rhythm and anticipate the attack. It happens to me from time to time, usually when the water is cold or warm, but rarely when the water temperature is within the active feeding range of the species. I discovered a way to catch these lethargic fish some years ago, during a November evening. The water was cold but there was a good deal of bait around, and I was confident that bass were in the area.

But several hours of casting into fertile waters produced nothing. However, from time to time I heard loud splashes. The splashes were bass, because the five-inch bait just didn't have the muscle to make those noises. In addition, there were a few "pops" mixed in, which is a sure sign that school bass are feeding.

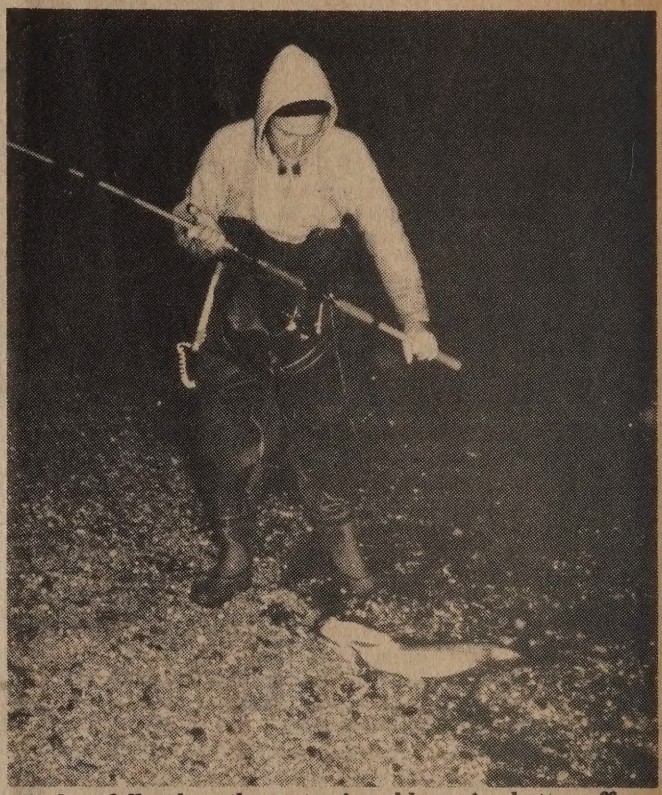
I watched the water carefully. The surface was exceptionally calm, and in the subdued glow I could see the small ripples being created by my small swimming plug as it wiggled slowing along the surface. Invariably, the splashes were in the vicinity of my bait. I decided to listen intently, and the next time I heard a splash I'd strike back.

I strained to hear the slightest sound. After a half-dozen casts I heard a "pop" and, with an immediate flick of my wrist, lifted the tip abruptly. To my delight something pulled back. I worked the fish in my direction—a nice, fat, five-pound bass!

Proud of my discovery, I used the knowledge gained to collect a good stringer that evening. When I told my buddies, they listened politely but didn't really believe.

I insisted that we go back to the spot the following evening. Brian agreed to keep me company, even though his waders leaked profusely. Unlike the preceding evening, we caught nothing, but neither did either of us hear a splash or a "pop."

On the top of the tide we let the water rest and tried a boulder-strewn piece of beach to the east. We caught nothing and returned to the original spot. The walk back was cold—after all, in two days it would be December—and the nighttime temperatures had already dipped into the twenties and thirties on a number of occasions.



In late fall, when the water is cold, you're better off responding to the sound instead of the feel of striking fish.

We spread out on either side of a small tide rip. On my first cast I heard the splash, almost instinctively struck, and we were in business. We finished the night with a good mess of fish and Brian was a believer. The point is that, if you discover a local feeding area and develop a technic to take advantage of the conditions, have confidence in the method until conditions change or until you learn or develop an improved approach.

I believe that we did not feel the hits because the bass were coming up behind the plug and gently mouthing the bait. About the time that they realized it was a phony, they'd retreat, setting up a little surface commotion. If the angler reacts quickly enough he can catch at least a few of the fish and salvage an otherwise unproductive evening. The impact of the fish hitting the plug was undetectable because the forward motion of the fish corresponded roughly to the motion of the plug, and any discrepancies were buffered by the stretch of the monofilament line.

When bass are on a "dainty feed" it pays to put down the meat stick and start wielding the lightest outfit that's available. Light rods equipped with small reels and line less than 10 pound test transmit the slightest change in the tension generated from the plug end. The lighter system exposes the "taps" and "raps" instead of hiding them.

For those of you who are fearful of losing bigger fish, remember that it's the quality of the equipment, especially the reel's drag system, and the skill of the angler that prevents

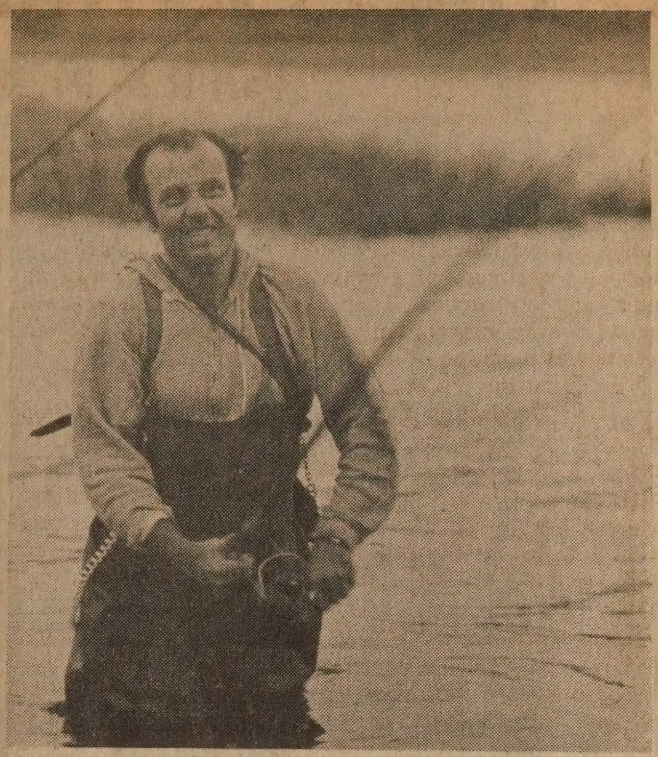
the untimely loss of big fish. And, besides, you have to hook them before you'll have a shot at landing them.

Much has also been written about color changes in bass when they strike. According to the most authoritative observations, the fish turn rust color or develop a reddish-brown glow just at the moment of attack. I've never witnessed the phenomena although I have frequently watched bass strike a lure. That is not to say that indeed bass do not change color, but rather that I have not observed it as yet. It took me 15 years to see my first "shooting star" but I've seen thousands since. Perhaps it is a matter of knowing what to look for, and then, perhaps, the fish do not develop color changes when striking, although I know some pretty damn good fishermen that swear to the existence of the phenomena.

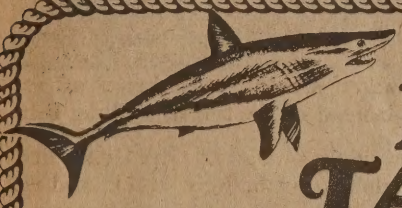
I have caught bass from the same school with a variation in coloration ranging from tints of green, black, gold, rust, and blue. Whether or not these color differences are reflective of genetic variation or temporary changes in hue when striking and fighting is, I believe, open to debate.

These have been a few observations and interpretations of striper feeding patterns. Some of my observations may be limited and my interpretations erroneous, but, in the absence of an exact book of knowledge, the angler must write his own book during the long years of maturation and development. Happily, more and more fishermen have become students of the animals they pursue, and this has inadvertently also made them students of nature and the environment.

I'm a bass lover. I'll walk away from a school of feeding blues when I have had my fill, but bass—never! They are a remarkable species and it seems that one never runs out of new observations or experiences that help to continuously change one's body of knowledge about *Morone saxatilis.*



The author concentrates to set the hook after a solid strike.



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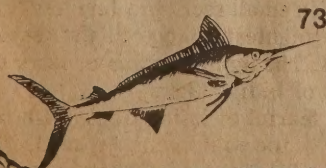
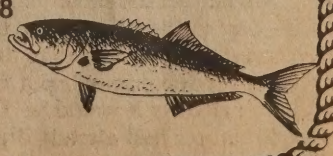




Insects of the Sea

by Joseph J. Cook

Living in our bays, creeks, and canals is a mean-tempered, ten-legged creature that is surely one of the sea's most palate-satisfying foods—the blue crab. This delicately flavored crab has no backbone and carries its skeleton on the outside of its body, rather than on the inside as do most animals. Blue crabs, members of a large family of some twenty thousand different species of crustaceans, are sometimes known as the "insects of the sea."

Crabs are easily distinguished from other crustaceans by their general oval-shaped body plus the presence of a small abdomen or "tail" that is tucked under their body where it fits into a groove. The narrow T-shape of the male abdomen readily identifies his sex as compared with the broad, rounded abdomen of the female.

Blue crabs usually have an olive brown or dark green top shell with a white or yellowish tinged underside. The protective shell, known as the carapace, is approximately twice as wide as it is long, averaging six or seven inches across the points. The legs and claws are colored a bright blue, with the claws of the female tipped with a red hue. Usually the right claw is heavier, with broader, blunter teeth or serrations than the left pincer.

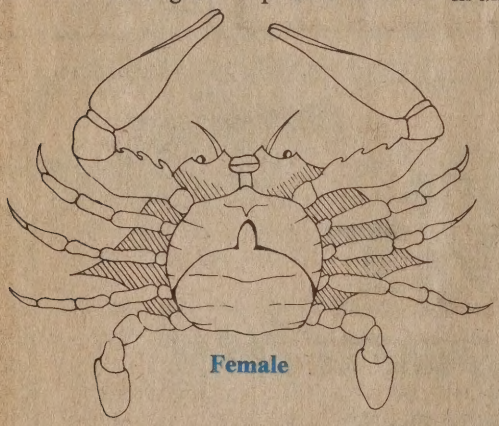
These crabs perfer warm, shallow water, usually leaving the mud, where they hibernate during the cold months, in June. As the intensity of the sun increases many of these creatures are found clinging on the pilings of docks, piers, and bulkheads.

July and August are excellent crabbing months, with the largest specimens often being caught in late September as flounder fishermen bounce their sinkers on muddy bottoms in an effort to attract their quarry. Also, in early autumn blue crabs are particularly hungry since they must store up enough energy to keep themselves alive during their period of hibernation.

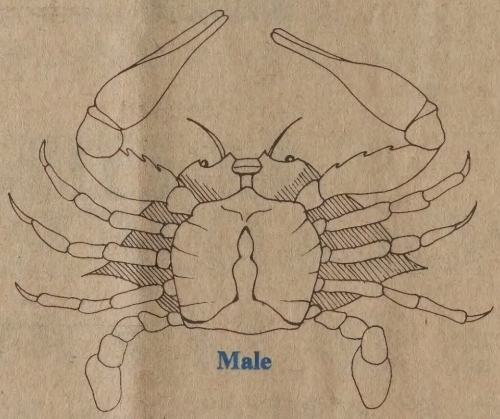
Blue crabs are excellent swimmers, using their back pair of legs somewhat like paddles as they cut through the water in search of crevices and holes where unwary small fishes may be hiding. They will eat almost anything, both plant and animal, to satisfy their seemingly unsatiable hunger.

There are several ways to catch these "insects of the sea." Perhaps the easiest is to use a commercially-made crab trap. Simply bait the trap with a piece of fish or some killies. Make certain that you have securely tied the bait to the bottom of the trap.

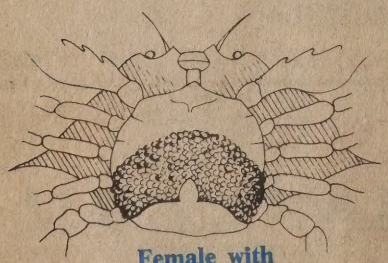
Lower the baited trap into the water by means of the cord that is tied to the lines attached to the four sides of the trap. When the trap hits the bottom the



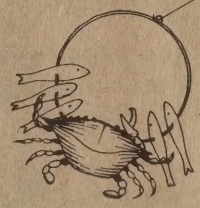
Female



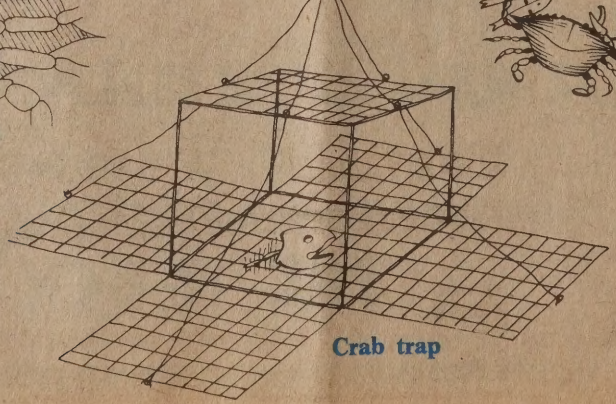
Male



Female with "Sponge"



Killie ring



Crab trap

sides will fall open, allowing a hungry crab to enter where it can feed on the bait. Pulling on the cord will close the sides of the trap, so every once in a while lift up the trap to see if the bait has lured in any crabs.

Another crabbing technique is to use a ring made of wire. String your bait through their bodies with the wire and then hook the ends of the wire so that the bait can't slide off. Tie, to the wire, a cord that is sufficiently long enough to reach the bottom where you plan to crab, then add a few more feet of line which you can either hold directly in your hands, or wrap around a stick or piece of wood that you can easily handle. Throw your baited ring into the water and as it settles on the bottom, hopefully some hungry crab will try to walk off with it: You will feel the crab pulling.

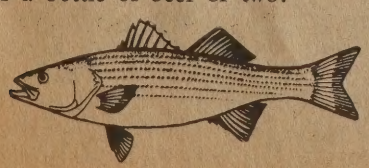
Ever so gently, pull the cord in so as not to alarm the feasting creature. Soon you will see the "prize of the day" tugging on the bait. Quickly dip your crab net under the crab and lift your catch up out of the water and on to "dry land."

A third way to catch these crustaceans is to hunt them armed only with a crab net. Blue crabs often rest on pilings and bulkheads just below the surface of the water. If you spot one, swiftly slip your net under it and, in one swoop, lift the critter out of the water. Many times crabs rest on the bottom and sides of shallow creeks. Silently pole your boat along the waterways where you may net a mess of crabs.

If you should catch a female with a "sponge" on the abdomen, immediately put it back into the water as this is a spawning female. Taking of "sponge" females will greatly reduce next year's and the years-to-come harvest of these tasty crustaceans, as fewer young will be born.

Also, always separate soft-shelled crabs from the hard-shelled ones, since crabs are cannabalistic and the softies are defenseless against the hard shell crab. Finally, always keep your catch out of the sun. Crabs can live quite a long time out of the water if they are kept cool and wet. Seaweed or wet newspaper is ideal.

What other sea creature, on a hot summer night, can top a mess of crabs plus a bottle of beer or two?



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Surf Fishing Accessories

by Vlad Evanoff

Besides the rod, reel and line there are many accessories and other items you need to do a good job of catching fish from the surf. If you try to do without some of these extras, you may find yourself handicapped and catching fewer fish then the properly-equipped surf angler.

Take waders, for example. I've seen many anglers wear boots in spots which call for waders. Then they find that they can't wade out far enough to reach the fish. Or they get water into their boots and have to quit fishing or fish in discomfort.

Waders are also handy when fishing on cold nights, in the early spring and fall and during rain and storms. They keep you dry and comfortable and you can keep on fishing in all kinds of weather. The best waders used by most expert surf anglers are the all-rubber type made especially for surf fishing. They are expensive but provide the most protection and warmth and stand up best when fishing around rocks, mussels, barnacles and on jetties.

When you buy such waders make sure they are on the loose side and that they fit over heavy pants or socks. Try them on for size to see if you can raise your legs with ease and do knee-bends freely. If not, get a slightly larger pair, since you'll have trouble walking and climbing rocks with tight-fitting waders.

Plastic waders can be used along sand beaches during the summer and on warm days. Although light and less expensive, they don't stand up very well aroung rocks, barnacles, hooks and the sharp fins of fish. Plastic waders are usually worn with tennis shoes, sneakers or wading shoes; walking is easier and they are much lighter than the heavy all-rubber waders.

Some surf anglers prefer boots when fishing from sand beaches, rocky shores or jetties. They are fine if you don't wade out too far into the water, or when the surf is calm and there are no big, breaking waves. But conditions change quickly when surf fishing, so when you wear hip-boots it's also a good idea to wear a pair of waterproof over-alls over the boots to keep the waves and water from getting inside.

When surf fishing on warm days you can often wear just a shirt or an ordinary jacket. But when fishing at night or in cold weather or in a rain or when wading out on a bar or fishing in a heavy surf, you need a waterproof parka over your waders. It should have a hood and a drawstring, or snaps around the neck, wrists and waist to keep the water out.

For fishing from jetties, breakwaters, rocky shores or other slippery spots you need a pair of ice-creepers or wading sandals. They can be bought in many coastal fishing tackle stores, but many surf anglers make their own. The best kind are those with hobnails or short spikes which dig into the rocks or wood.

Every surf angler will find a web pistol belt handy. These are sold in many Army-Navy surplus or sporting goods stores. Those made with brass metal parts are best since they do not rust. These belts have reinforced holes scattered along their length for attaching various items. Many surf anglers also fasten a permanent brass hanger plate to the belt with snaps and holders for a fish stringer and gaff. If you use a flexible telephone cord to hold the short gaff you can extend it to any length while gaffing a fish.

During the hot summer months a surf angler can fish in shorts or bathing trunks like this Delaware State angler shown here. But in the early spring, fall, and on cold days and nights, waders and jacket come in handy. Photo by Delaware State Development Dept.

You can also buy some small pouches or canvas bags from Army-Navy surplus stores, which can be attached to a web belt. Such bags can hold the smaller lures such as metal squids, jigs and plastic or rigged eels. For the larger plugs some kind of surf bag with separate compartments for each lure will save time, fumbling and tangled lures. These can be bought by mail (see ads in this magazine) or you can make your own. The whole idea is to have everything you need on the belt or in your pockets so that your hands are free when walking, casting, fighting a fish or climbing rocks and jetties.

If you plan to fish from sand beaches on the bottom with

bait, or if you plan to spend the entire day in one spot, a large shoulder bag is handy. This should have a wide strap and enough room to carry sinkers, hooks, rigs, spare reel and other items. Plastic pails, bait buckets and styrofoam containers are often used for keeping bait fresh or keeping water, soda or beer cold. And, of course, a folding chair or stool is used by many bait fishermen while sitting and waiting for a bite.

Bait fishermen also need a sand spike for holding the rod upright while waiting for a bite, for changing baits and rigs, or just for keeping the reel off the sand. If you want to hold the rod and feel a bite, you'll find a rod belt helpful. Even anglers using lures find such a rod belt a big help. The weight of the rod and reel is taken off your hands and arms and it's less tiring to fish this way. The rod belt also helps to take the strain off your arms and groin when fighting a big fish. A rod belt with a wide leather backing or "apron" is best suited for this purpose.

If you plan to wade out some distance from shore, and don't want to come back to dry land everytime you catch a fish, you'll need a fish stringer. Fish stringers can also be used to tie down fish caught on a jetty so they won't be washed away by the waves. There are chain-type stringers or nylon cord stringers which you can wear on your web belt.

When bait fishing at night from a sand beach, jetty or breakwater, bring along a big flashlight or lamp. But for squidding or casting lures and working and climbing rough jetties, a headlight which can be worn around your neck is better.

Anglers who fish from beaches and rocky shores, or who wade out on sand, mussel or rock bars can carry a short gaff hook on their belts. If you plan to fish from the higher rocks, jetties or breakwaters, a long-handled gaff anywhere from six to ten feet in length may be needed. When the big waves are breaking you don't have to climb down on the lower rocks to gaff a fish if you have a long gaff.

A knife of some kind for cutting line, hooks out of fish and bait, and for cleaning fish is also needed. A knife that can be carried in a sheath on your belt is good, but even a well-made, large folding knife which can be kept in your pocket will serve the purpose. A stainless steel knife made especially for fishing is usually best.

Other items which may be needed from time to time are cutting and gripping pliers, a small can or tube of reel oil, a sharpening stone, insect repellent, sunglasses and a pair of binoculars. The binoculars usually aren't carried down to the beach or on the jetties, but can be kept in the car for spotting breaking fish, birds or other anglers fishing.

All this seems like a lot of stuff just to catch a fish from the surf, but, believe me, surf anglers don't like to buy or carry any more equipment than they have to. The items listed here have been found necessary or vital to the sport, and most expert surf anglers have them.

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BAY BUM:
In Search of the Fruits of the Bay

Part I

by Tom Franza

In these times of rising costs every housewife is searching desperately for some method of trimming her household expenses. Usually, the first place she looks to see if any cuts can be made is in the family's food budget. Therefore, it is the wise husband who helps his wife out by lowering her food costs.

It is a beautiful cycle. First, you supplement the main and secondary courses on your menu with some of the fruits of the bay, thus trimming the household expenses. The money now saved can be diverted toward the purchase of some new toys—excuse me—supplies, for your bay boat. These now are used to provide more food, thus saving your wife more money and making you more the hero. Should the logic behind this argument escape you, do not despair. If you play your cards right, it will all work out just fine.

Most people who claim they don't like fish or shellfish say so because they are accustomed to the variety available in the supermarket. I don't blame them, because I can't stand that stuff either. There is just no way you can compare the quality with that which has been freshly harvested from the bay. The flavor of truly fresh fish is enough to make your mouth water just thinking about it. In addition, much of this can be successfully frozen without any sacrifice in flavor, provided you do it properly the minute you get home.

This article and the next will list most of these foods, as well as a quick guide to where and how they can be obtained. I will also try to give you a rough idea of how each might be prepared.

There are two basic divisions of food found in the bay—shellfish and regular fish. The steaks and lobsters that are found in the local bay-front restaurants are not legally countable among the fruits of the bay, although your wife may want you to consider them as such, especially when coming home at the end of a long weekend.

First for the shellfish, my favorite. The most popular shellfish in our bays is the clam. I am referring, of course, to the standard hardshell variety which comes in four basic sizes: cherrystone, little neck, top neck, and chowder. Or, to the inexperienced: small, medium, large and extra large. All of these clams can be dug either with a rake or by the old hand-and-foot method in the shallows of the bay.

The cherrystones are delicious on the half shell with a squirt of lemon and some hot sauce. Little necks are also fine on the half shell, and are also very good for making baked clams, steaming, or for clams casino. Top necks are superior for linguine with clam sauce or baking, and chowders, naturally, are fine for chowder.

Another hardshell delight is the mussel. These dark little beauties can be found clinging to pilings and on rocks and jetties, which makes low tide the best time for harvesting. All you have to do is climb down with a bucket or sack and peel them off. Mussels can be prepared in a nice hot tomato sauce or steamed open and dipped in melted butter with a squirt of lemon. For a real treat, they can also be baked in the same fashion as clams.

When you beard them (nautical for clean), make sure that each one has been thoroughly scrubbed. Also check to see that none of them are dead and the shells filled with mud or sand. Simply push the top and bottom halves of the shell in opposite directions to make sure that it is good. If a shell filled with mud ever opens up during cooking, it will spoil the whole pot of sauce.

Scungilli is another of the bay's treasures, sometimes dug up while clamming. These are the large, conch-like shells that are known as the Channeled Whelk. They're the same ones you found on the beach as a kid and held up to your ear to hear the ocean's roar. Only now you want the kind that still has its original tenant inside.

It takes at least six to eight large scungilli to make a meal. So, if you don't rake up that many, throw them back for another day. After all, you might be a bum, but not a hog.

Cooking them is an art. You must be very careful to not overcook them, otherwise they will come out with the same consistency as though prepared by B.F. Goodrich. These are served in an extremely hot tomato sauce. They are then spooned over Fraselle, a hard, dried, spicy, Italian biscuit. The result

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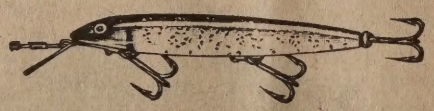

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is something that will make your mouth water (and your eyes too, if the sauce is too hot).

A few years back the floor of the Great South Bay off parts of Fire Island was loaded with bay scallops. As of late, though, they seem to be getting few and far between. These are the ones shaped like the Shell gas station sign. You eat only the muscle, discarding the rest; so, unless you come upon an extremely large bed, it doesn't pay to gather them. If you are lucky enough to find a lot, however, clean them out, saving only the ivory-colored muscle. Dip this muscle in egg and bread crumbs and deep fry. This will provide you with one of the sweetest meals you've ever tasted.

Another species of shellfish that seems to be disappearing from our local waters is the soft shell clam, more commonly known as the steamer clam. (In the vernacular he is known as the piss clam, because of what he appears to do to you as you are trying to dig him up.)

These can sometimes be found along the underwater banks of sand islands that appear as the tide goes out, so dead low tide is the best time to try to find a spot. You will first see a little hole in the sand. If you dig fast and are lucky, you will come across one. They do have one nasty little habit, however, and that is squirting you with water right in the eye as you are about to pull them out. Hence their vernacular terminology.

Because of their high sand content, they will have to be rinsed out several times in clear water before they are prepared. After they have been steamed, save the broth that has formed at the bottom of the pot.

After you have served the clam, it should be removed from its shell while peeling back the black outer layer of skin that covers the proboscis-shaped appendage. Discard this covering, as it is usually exceedingly sandy. Now take the cleaned clam and dip it first in the broth and then in the melted butter. You will find that these make a superior appetizer. It is best, however, that in addition to serving them separately, you follow up with wet wash rags, as their only fault is that they are on the messy side to eat.

Speaking of messy things, let me not forget the mighty blue claw crab. This harbinger of late summer and early fall has lately made an extremely strong comeback in our local bays, as the big toes of those of us who have been bitten while clamming can attest. The blue claw can easily be caught, although the toe method is not recommended, as you will rapidly run out of bait. Instead, more people prefer the use of traps baited with a dead fish, or a killie ring and a net.

If you prefer, you can walk the docks and search the pilings armed only with a long-handled net. If your eyes are sharp and your reactions quick, you should be able to scoop up enough for a meal. One other method is to go out at night, equipped with a high-powered lantern and a net. Any way you try it though, if you have sufficient patience you can easily catch enough to have a family feast.

Please, however, throw back any "sponge" crabs you come across, as these are females who are ready to deposit their eggs. Only in this way will we be assured of an adequate supply next year.

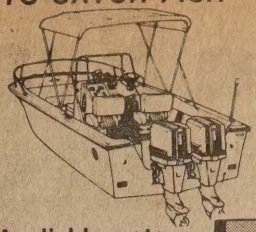
Next to clams, crabs are perhaps the most versatile of all the bay's shellfish, at least so far as their preparation goes. Crabs can be boiled or steamed and eaten hot as a main course or cold as an hors d'oeuver. Crabs can be cooked in tomato sauce and served with spaghetti to provide one of the most pleasantly palatable experiences of your gastronomic life.

Should you be fortunate enough to catch a couple of soft-shelled or shedder crabs, you are ready for the epitome of crab dining excellence. These may be steamed and served with melted butter or dipped in egg and bread crumbs or corn meal, and deep fried to a golden brown. Serve them with tartar sauce and you are ready to enter heaven.

The shellfish world, of course, describes only one half the fruits of the bay. Next time, in Part II, I will discuss some of their better and also lesser-known finny brethren; the beasts that most bay fishermen originally go out for.

(To be cont'd., coming next: In Search of the Fruits of Bay, Part II)

"WHAT IT TAKES TO CATCH FISH"



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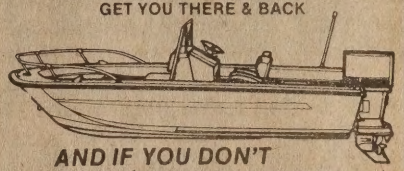

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On $14,000	1970	Inbd	$200 Ded	$246
On $16,000	1973	I/O	$200 Ded	$222
On $20,000	1974	Inbd	$200 Ded	$258
On $24,000	1973	Inbd	$500 Ded	$294
On $30,000	1974	Inbd	$500 Ded	$355
On $40,000	1972	Inbd	$500 Ded	$403
On $48,000	1970	Inbd	$500 Ded	$571
On $70,000	1973	Inbd	$1,000 Ded	$614
On $75,000	1974	Inbd	$1,000 Ded	$648

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USE WIRE LEADER ONLY IF BLUEFISH ARE AROUND.

BY FRED GUARDINEER

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TO DRIFT DEAD BLACKFISH TAKE BACK BONE OUT AND RIG THROUGH LIPS SAME AS DEAD EEL IN LAST WEEK'S L.I.F.

LIVE BERGALLS AND SEA BASS ARE JUST AS EFFECTIVE—*IF YOU CUT THE FINS OFF.*

SEABASS →

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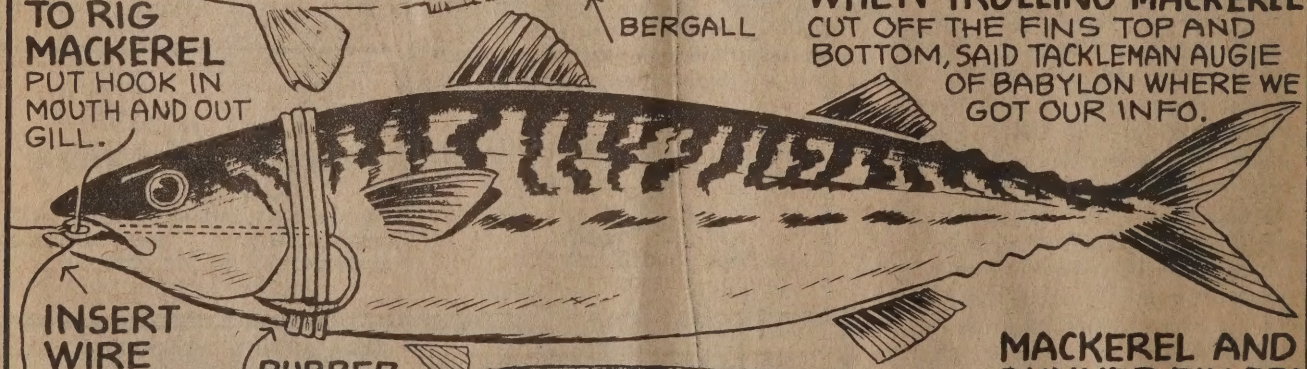
↑ BERGALL

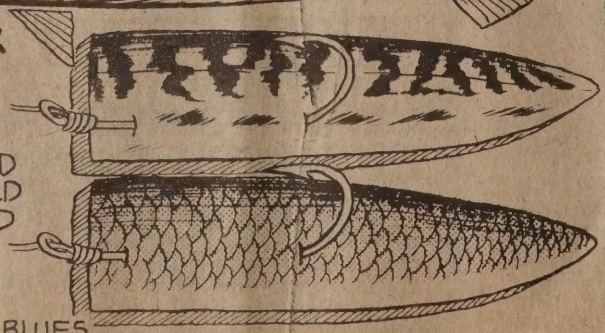
WHEN TROLLING MACKEREL CUT OFF THE FINS TOP AND BOTTOM, SAID TACKLEMAN AUGIE OF BABYLON WHERE WE GOT OUR INFO.

TO RIG MACKEREL PUT HOOK IN MOUTH AND OUT GILL.



INSERT WIRE THROUGH EYE OF HOOK AND TWIST AROUND LIPS TO HOLD HOOK IN PLACE FOR DRIFTING.

RUBBER BANDS AROUND BACK OF HEAD AND GILLS HOLD HOOK AND BARB IN PLACE.



MACKEREL CHUNKS ARE EXCELLENT BAIT WHEN CHUMMING BASS OR BLUES.

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THIS CONCLUDES THE TWO WEEK RIGGING SEMINAR CONDUCTED BY PROF. PRINCIPE.

SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

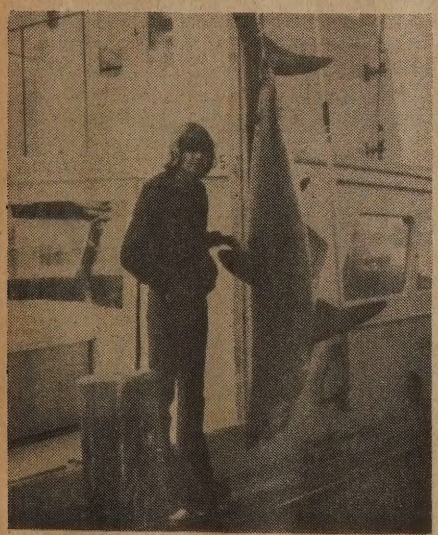
MONTAUK

Capt. Paul Sundberg of the charter-boat **Montauk** caught four mako sharks this past week. He had the boys from the Star Island Nautical Campout. Danny Mac Donald of Tenafly, N.J. a fourteen year old, caught the biggest mako with an estimated weight of over 225 pounds. Capt. Sundberg also caught a blue shark which had a tag. Several football-sized tuna were caught by some of the boats out there.

Capt. Charlie Harned of the **Viking Starlite** has been knocking them dead on the fluke fishing during the day. At night he keeps busy with the loads of bluefish that are being caught.

Capt. Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Star** said the codfishing at Cox's Ledge is terrific. The codfish are going from 15 to 25 pounds. The pool fish the last days of the week were in the fifties.

Hank Colombi at the **Star Island Yacht Club** called to report the fishing out there is just short of fantastic. The Serenity trolled 89 bluefish on Saturday on the south side by the sand beaches. The Teaser has averaged 80 fluke per day while the Friendship had 100 fluke on Sunday—one of which went to 11 pounds. Shark fishing continues to be very good with the Bumble Bee catching a 110 pound Mako, 150 pound mako and a blue of 195 pounds. The Moustache had a mako of 169 pounds. Tuna of football size was caught by The Way Out but just a couple. Davis II had 60 bluefish in two and a half hours fishing with herring at the Cartwright Grounds. Black Island still has codfish as attested to by the Lillian Q which had one of over 40 pounds.



Danny McDonald of Tenafly, N.J., with his 225 lb. Mako shark. Danny was in a group of 6 boys from the Star Island Nautical Camp Ltd. of Montauk who chartered the charter-boat "Montauk". They also had a Mako of 90 pounds and two blue sharks.

Capt. John Sweetman of **The Ebb Tide** has been loading up his charters on either fluke or bluefish. You can practically name what you want to catch.

LIF staff member, Scott Simons, said that the fluke fishing in the rips at Midway is still excellent and improving all the time. Publisher Rich Reina and contributing writer Doc Muller and Scott went out Wednesday and took 50 fluke, none over 4 pounds. On Saturday Scott fished by himself and took 61 fish, largest 8 pounds. On Sunday, friends Frank and Larry had 81 fluke averaging 2-3 pounds. Large bluefish—of 8-9 pounds are all over and picking up strip baits on the bottom. Larry pulled in a 2 pound fluke that had been devoured by bluefish on the way up—all that remained was the head and entrails. The fluke fishing is best from sunrise to noon, when the fish have had their fill and become picky. Plenty of small fluke 15-16" are being taken right off the beach on the west side of Shagwong Reef by slowly trolling strip baits or sand eels.

The Flying Cloud has done very well on the fluke. On Saturday a 13 pound nine ounce fluke was caught by a woman fare. She also took the pool another day. The rips off Montauk and the south side of the Point is most productive.

Capt. Bud Dorman of **The Viking Skipper** on Friday, July 19, will be sailing at 5:30 A.M. for porgies, sea bass and blackfish.

Capt. George Glas of **The Hel-Cat** reports the bluefishing in the Race is terrific. Catches of from six to 15 pounds are the rule with everyone going home with a bagful of fish.

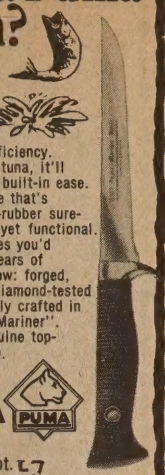
Capt. Brad Glas of the **Helen II** has been fluke fishing during the week and doing well. On the weekends his charters go for what they want and are all successful.

Capt. Charles Nappi had 11 makos on this week and landed three. School tuna were busting all over but took neither lures nor bait although live whiting was tried. There are loads of fish out there and Capt. Nappi has some prime dates open still.

SHINNECOCK

Porgy fishing on both of the Capt. Clark boats has been excellent all week. The summer run of weakfish has definitely arrived said Capt. Clark Bellows. Ed Trapp of Riverhead, his son and grandaughter had 89 porgies and 27 weaks on the **Capt. Clark II** on Sunday. Capt. Clark Bellows, Jr. scored heavily on the porgies. The **Capt. Clark I** had over 265 porgies for 15 fares and many one to three pound weakfish.

What can a Puma do to a fish?



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SAG HARBOR

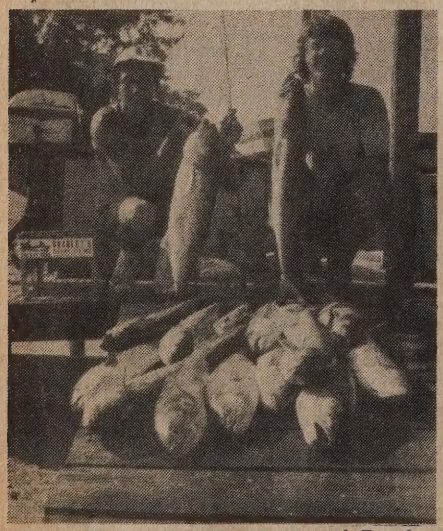
Helen of **Noyac Marina** called to report that Carlos Ortiz and Emanuel Moore made six worms stretch to take 28 good size porgies between buoy 16 and the Monastery. On Saturday, Priscilla and Mike Albert Jr., Brooklyn, fished a few hours in the morning at Short Beach and took 31 nice weakfish up to 3 pounds and one large porgy. They used Salty Dogs with a strip of squid. Stray fluke up to 8 pounds are being taken by buoy 16 and the Monastery. Best time for weakfish is on a moving tide in the morning.

HAMPTON BAYS

Fluke is still pretty good, reports Frank of **Frank's Fishing Station**. A lot of shorts with a few 5 and 6 pound fish are being taken in the East Channel by the Inlet. Some really nice bluefish running 8, 9 and 10 pounds were trolled a mile out of the inlet. Some boats had up to a dozen. Flounder fishing is holding up around buoys 18 and 20.

Tony's Fishing Station reports good fluke fishing drifting squid and sandeel combo's between buoys 21 and 24, but you have to work for them. Still plenty of flounders around being taken on worms.

"We still have plenty of 2-3 pound fluke in the inlet and by the Coast Guard Station," reported Ernie at **Bradley's Fishing Station**. Still small bluefish being taken in the inlet trolling and jigging artificials. Weakfish have come back strong in Peconic Bay around buoy 32. Two boats left Bradley's Sunday and returned with about 50 weakfish each in the 1½ to 2 lb. range. They also took quite a few medium-sized porgies in the same area.



Ernie Behrle, right, owner of Bradley's Fishing Station and Bruce Oldeack plugged these 15 bluefish ranging from 8 to 12 lbs. on light spinning tackle outside Shinnecock Inlet. Fishing aboard Capt. Bob Oldeack's VI Pak II they also took a 45 pound dusky shark and lost another estimated to be over 100 lbs.

Len Dornfeld of New Jersey with the first broadbill sword fish of the season which he took aboard Capt. Frank Mundus "Cricket II" out of Montauk. The 165 pound broadbill took a bait in a chum slick 50 miles south of Montauk. Harry Hoffman, who has been looking for a swordfish for years, just missed out when he went to sleep after fighting a 325 lb. dusky shark for almost five hours. Better luck next time, Harry!

MORICHES BAY

Romona Seifert of the **Silly Lily Fishing Station** reports the fluke fishing has been hot and cold. The best spot seems to be in the rips between buoys 36 to 39. Stanley Kramer of Brooklyn had 18 fluke all by himself on Friday. The bait was any combination of live killies with frozen spearing or squid. The fish went from keepers to four pounds. Flounder can still be had at the sand bar near buoy 39.

Jim Longtin fished south of the 2B buoy out of Moriches Inlet and blitzed the blues. They trolled black surge tubes and had blues from nine to over 16 pounds. Jim Jr. had the largest on which hit a black Alou eel. The fish were full of squid and baby flounder or bunker. To finish the day they went to Forge River and picked up two-three gallon buckets of crabs.

Nancy at **Skidmore's Fishing Station** reported very good fluke catches are being taken around buoys 38 and 42 drifting and trolling combo's of squid with killie, sand eel or spearing. Average per boat is 6 to 15 fish in the 2 to 3 pound range with an occasional 5 or 6 pounder thrown in. For every three fish there is only one throwback. Up to two dozen flounder per boat are being taken by buoys 38 and 39. The private boats are taking blues 6 to 10 pounds at the mouth of the inlet. Stripers are being plugged with Striper Swipers in the evening and early AM hours off the Coast Guard radio station. Fish range from schoolies up to 15 pounds.

Frank Cerullo of **Cerullo Brothers Fishing Station** said that flounders are excellent around buoys 29 and 32. Average per boat is 25 to 50 ¾-pound fish. Fluking is good southwest of buoy 29 and in the Old Cut. Killie and squid combo's are producing 6-12 fish per boat, average about three pounds with one 9-pounder taken over the weekend.

Fluke fishing has been picking up nicely, reported Ben of **Tadsen's Fishing Station**. The fish are of fair size and are all over the flats. Largest weighed in over the weekend was 5-lb. 2;oz. Flounders are holding up in the buoy 29 neighborhood. Snapper blues are all over the bay. Crabbing has not been too good in this area yet.

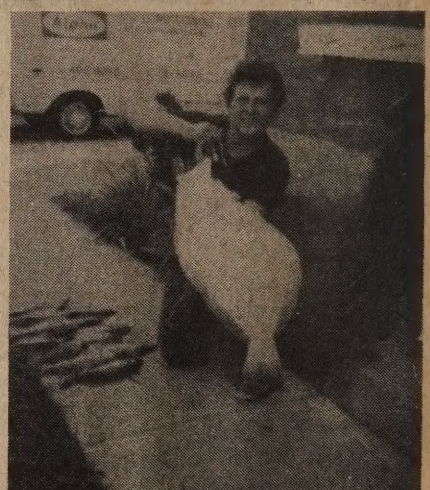
Dick Asigian of **Dick's Tackle Box** said that fluke to 5 pounds and snapper blues to 2 pounds are plentiful throughout the bay. Killie and squid combo best for fluke, Rebels best for the blues. Crabs are all over the bay with plenty of big ones. Flounders still around with bloodworms doing the trick. Striped bass in the early AM and evening hours at the inlet using clam bellies. Plenty of good fishing for those who watch and use the tides.

CAPTREE

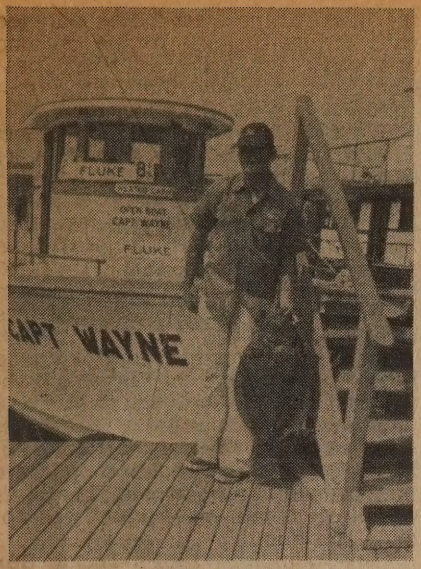
Capt. Ben Litwin did very well on the night blue fishing. He had 50 fares one day who caught over 600 blues.

Fluke fishing has also been excellent with catches of about half dozen at least per man.

Capt. George Roman of the **Captree Queen** called to say the fluke fishing is just excellent all over. "The fluking has never been better," says George, "with 90% keeper size." Capt. Roman intends to stick with the fluke while the run remains as hot as it is.



Robert Braun of Bayshore caught this 18 lb. 4 oz. fluke on a 7 inch strip of fluke belly drifting off the Sore Thumb—total caught for the day was 23. Fluke was weighed in Captree Fishing Station.



This 20 pound-even fluke was caught on July 1, 1974, from the open boat Capt. Wayne. Karl Heuschneider of Jericho, N.Y. caught this huge fish on a live killy while drifting between the Wreck Buoy and the Coast Guard Station.

Report from Capt. Blum of **Jib VI & V**, fluking is fantastic. Loads of keepers.

George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty** has had very good blue fishing all week both day and night. The catches have been from 3,4 or 5 per man to over 20. His biggest fish of the week was an 18 pound four ounce blue. The fish are anywhere from Fire Island to South of Cholera.

Carl Bauer of the **Capt. Whittaker** reports that on Sunday Russ Harris of Wantagh caught an 8½ pound fluke but Joel Green of Seaford took the pool with a 10 pound 4 ounch one. Saturday saw seven fluke over five pounds caught near the Inlet.

WEST SAYVILLE

Dudley Young of **Young's Fishing Station** said the fluke and weaks were very good catches. Weaks are averaging about three pounds going to five. Buoys 29 & 30 are best. Mike Cute of Bayport weighed in some three and four pound porgies which he caught while clam chumming east of Brown's River.

Dennis Masteison of **South Bay Fishing Station** said the summer run of weakfish is definitely in. Guys are now coming in with a burlap bagful of them. These are the smaller 1½ to 3 pounds weaks. A few kingfish were caught as well as some porgies. Weakfishing is best near the dredges.

BABYLON

Charlie's Fishing Station says there is excellent action on fluke and crabs in the East-West Channel towards Howell's Point. Occasional weakfish are being caught.

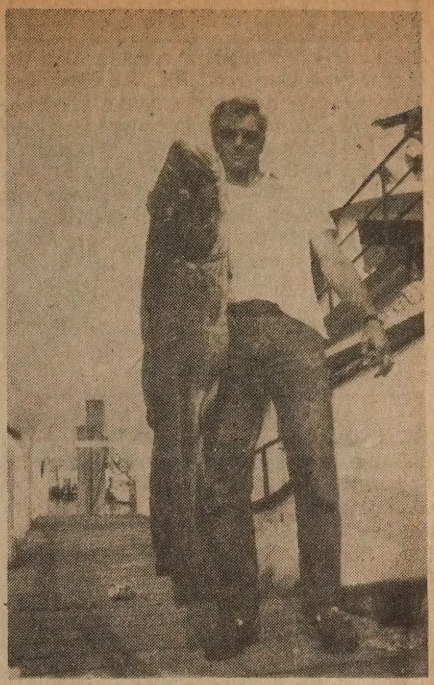
Walter Schmidt of the **Babylon Fishing Station** reports fair fluke fishing from the Coast Guard Station to the Lighthouse. If you find the right spot you can do very well. Chumming for blues in the Steamboat Channel is very productive. Walter says there are millions of crabs but most of them are small. Throw back the ones whose body is smaller than your hand and next year you'll reap a bonanza.

WANTAGH

Frank Hecker at **Causeway** reports John Toscano of Amityville caught 12 fluke of nice size in the State Channel. He threw 20 back. Fluke fishing is definitely improving. Freeport-Swift Creek area is doing very well on flounder considering the lateness of the season. They are in the holes on both sides and taking either blood or sand worms. Snapper fishing in the canals is just starting with the fish being small. Bass fishing is spotty but are being taken on bunker where it is available.

LINDENHURST

Duke's Tackle reports tuna of from five to 30 pounds being trolled with feathers south of Fire Island and Shinnecock Inlets. Some billfish were sighted, hooked and boated in the same area. Bluefishing is very good and has been consistent in about 90 feet of water but should be moving in



Douglas Sherman of Bayside took 15 cod including this 51 pound bruiser at Coxes Ledge on the Peconic Queen II on the 4th of July.

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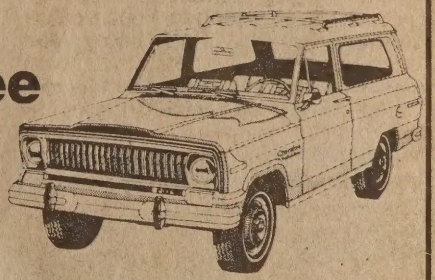

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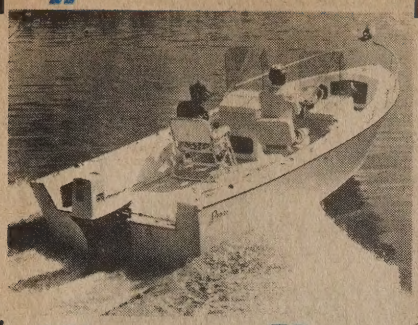

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soon. Fluke fishing has been active in the bay. Also fluke are being caught in the ocean off Democrat Point and offshore of Robert Moses State Park.

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Tackle reports the **Gay Gypsey** with Capt. Bob Uffer and Mate Bill Sproul fished southeast of Fire Island on Saturday. Abe Dreier, Ted Olear and George Layton caught 20 tuna from ten to 12 pounds trolling white feather cedar jigs in 140 feet of water. Weakfish and blues are being caught very well near West Island and Unqua Point. These fish are 1½ to 3 pounds. Crabbing is improving off the Town Dock and the flats.

SEAFORD

Frank at **Del's Fishing Station** reports an eleven-year-old, Elaine Zimmerman of Seaford caught a five pound weakfish and seven fluke of two pounds at the Four Corners. Many fluke were taken there. Flounders are now in the deep holes for the summer.

Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station said the fluke fishing is pretty good at the Four Corners as well as at the second and third bridges. Weakfish are hitting the live killies meant for the fluke. A few crabs are coming in and it seems to be improving.

Men from the 13th Precinct in Manhattan, recently chartered Capt. Visilant's boat the Triton II out of Montauk Point. They had a good day, catching 32 stripers and 2 blues, from 4 to 18 lbs.

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N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

The **Starstream II, Capt. Al** & the **Aloma II** are bailing big blues day and night. Fishing is fast and furious, night and day, nights being a shade better. Right now they are working S.E. of Cholera and the fish are 6-12 lb. class. Don't miss these fish! Your reporter was out Sunday nite on the Starstream II, with Co-Capt. Chris at the wheel. Average was 15 big choppers per man. Even yours truly filled 2 big G.I. cans with these great fighting fish.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports very good fluking in the bays and cuts, at Guy Lombardo's, Loop Bridge and at the 1st Meadowbrook Bridge, all within 15 minutes of his station. Flounder still at Funday and the cuts, and blacks to 2 lbs.

Nick at the **Freeport Boatman's Assn.** reports excellent bluefishing 180°, 18 minutes out of Jones Inlet. Football tuna at the HA Buoy in abundance, trolling.

Bill Hendrin from Bridgeport, Conn., whose whole fishing club reads L.I.F. got 23 big blues on the Blue Fin Saturday nite.

Roy at **Mako Marina** called to say that Capt. Gene Krakow's "Petrel" took a 400 lb. dusky this week and Capt. Starkman's "Journeyman", angler Mr. Francis Gugler, boated a 302 lb. tigershark.

POINT LOOKOUT

Brand X is bluefishing day and night and Capt. George says catches are excellent.

Ed's Fishing Station—still doing

Atlantis Anglers members Gene, Lloyd, Mark and Stew trolled these 25 tuna, 12 to 26 pounds, on feathers and cedar jigs west of the HA buoy. Photo courtesy of Mako Marina.

Howard Abrahams, Howard Cohen, Paul Abrams and Jeffrey Scheffer took these 4 bass 20 to 38 pounds aboard Capt. Ronnie Lepper's boat "Kim". They took the fish on live bunker off the jetties of Rockaway Playland.

well on fluke. Several 6-lb. fish & a couple approaching 8 lbs. this past week, says Mrs. Wardel. Lot of throw backs, but a lot of keepers as well. Flounder still good at Swift Creek. Blacks at the bridges. Mrs. W. also expects kingfish soon.

ISLAND PARK

The **Ginnie Mae** has had big fluke, but now is switching over to blues.

Charlie at **Beckmann's Tackle** in Lynbrook reports plenty of fluke from Duck Pt. to East Rockaway Inlet. Very good bass fishing under the bridges on clam chum, live bunker or sandworms. Live eels too. Live eels are taking good bass cast at Cedar Beach Overlook. Sea bass ½-1 lb. in Atlantic Beach Bridge area and jetties. Some very small snappers in the bay.

LONG BEACH

Jim at **Long Beach Sports Marina** reports fluking is excellent in Reynolds Channel between buoys 3 & 5 on killies and spearing. Incoming water is best. Kingfish off the beaches on shrimp and worms. More fluke now at Duck Point on flooding tide. Schoolie bass to 8 lbs. at the Atlantic Beach Bridge, clam chum on ebbing tide.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Capt. Ron Lepper of the **"Kim"** reports bass off the Rockaways for boats and jetty jockeys on bunker. Blues are excellent 5-8 minutes south of Cholera. Shark fishing still decent, but has slowed a bit.

Hennings Fishing Station reports fluke very good in Reynolds Channel, fewer keepers, but still 12-15 per boat, up to 3-4 lbs., from the inlet east to buoy 7, on squid, killies & spearing. Fish the last of the flood and the first of the ebb. Chumming school bass at the bridge. Live and fresh dead bunker dunkers are getting their stripers, (who let those people swim in our ocean?) up to 25 lbs. At the HA buoy small footballs and monster shark and smaller shark. Fred Hill took a 122 lb. hammerhead shark and also caught on 6 lb. class tackle, a 9 lb. 4 oz. bluefin tuna, which has been submitted for a record to I.G.F.A.

The Atlantic Beach Rod & Gun Club annual rodeo for 6 species of fish will be held this weekend, 7-20 & 21. There will be many prizes and the entry fee is $10. Contact Henning's Fishing Station for details and entry forms.

JAMAICA BAY

John at **Channel Rod & Gun** says the North Channel Bridge for eels, crabs and some bass at night on sand worms. South Channel Bridge for lots of sand porgies and fluke. Try between S. Channel Br. & Marine Pkwy. Br. for fluke on the bay side. Fluke and blacks and stripers on the ocean side. Blues in the surf at high tide on sandworms or 5½" floating Rebels. Balcks at the jetties.

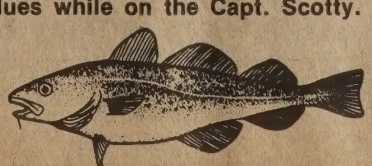
Bill at **Channel Rod & Gun** reports very good fluking between the trestle & Breezy Pt.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The **Amberjack II** is going great guns on big blues to 12 lbs., day and night, says Capt. Jim, who also says during the week a 19½ pound chopper was taken.

The **Tone B** had very good bluefishiing on Saturday, to 12 lbs., and on Sunday, Capt. Locurto fluked off Jersey, fish going to 3½ lbs.

Louis Zarrella, Rich Reina, Jr. & Wayne Tweedy with their catch of blues while on the Capt. Scotty.



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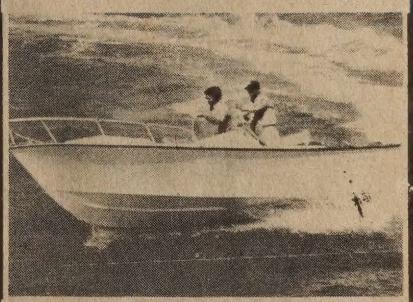

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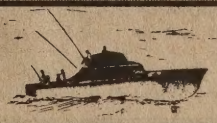

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NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

Freddie at **Mike's Tackle Shop** reports the Sheepshead Bay boats going for blues are having excellent catches anywhere from the Farms, south. Big blues being trolled at Norton's Pt. Fluking very good in the channel. On Sunday, Flynn's Knol, inside Sandy Hook produced a lot of fluke. Lots of stripers on clam bellies at the jetty, Hoffman Island and at V. Bridge.

STATEN ISLAND

John D'Aiuto, mate on the **"Fisherboy"** out of Great Kills Harbor, called to inform L.I.F. that on Saturday they fished Klondyke and filled the box with 40 choppers from 8-16 lbs. Sunday was fluke day, with half-a-dozen large flatties taken off Flynn's Knol.

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GREENPORT

Art White's Bait Shop reports very good fluking in Gardiner's Bay. Big bluefish in the Race. Good porgy fishing in Gardiner's with the bigger ones at Orient. Excellent surf fishing for bass at E. Marion.

The open boat **Wilheric** is knocking them dead on the great porgy fishing.

ORIENT POINT

Bill Liblien of **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** said the stripers are taking bucktails in the Plum Gut. Diamond jigs and whole bunker and mackerel are being hit by the big blues in the Gut. George Laub and party fished near the ruins by Gardiner's Island with shiners and sand eels and caught two 9 pound fluke which one angler thought would take the pool until another brought in a 16 pounder. The Southold Bay has small blues. Porgies of one pound are in from South Ferry to buoys 16, 17 & 18 as well as by buoy 3 and the abandoned lighthouse. A few weaks are in the area but are best in 60 to 90 feet of water south of the fishing station. These two to four pound weaks are taking squid on a high hook. Some blacks can be had but ask Bill where and what is best.

Mike Macchiarol took this 51 pound Striper Bass on a live bunker off Lloyd Neck on 7-5-74. Photo courtesy of Four Winds Bait & Tackle.

Point Lookout Island Park

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NEW SUFFOLK

Phil at **Capt. Marty's Fishing Station** said there are lots of porgies. Mrs. & Mr. Stevenson caught 225 of them south of buoy 25. Most were under 1 pound. Weakfishing has been spotty with the best of it in the Rose's Grove area. Snappers are becoming very active.

JAMESPORT

Warren's Tackle reports 1½-2 pound weakfish taking sand worms on a high hook. Lots and lots of porgies. Snapper blues of 1-1½ pounds are taking a trolled Rebel or small spoons.

MT. SINAI HARBOR

Queensland Cove Tackle Shop reports porgies being taken from the beach along with a few blacks. Rocky Point and Sound Beach has good early morning snapper fishing with either Kastmaster or a Sidewinder. A few bluefish were trolled deep with tube lures at Middle Grounds. Lethargic bass action with worms in the back of the Harbor. Four or five pound bass are being caught.

PORT JEFFERSON

Capt. John Fisher of the **Betty W** reports fair fishing. On Sunday the Sanford Paper Bag Co. was out. Everyone had porgies. During the week the bottom fishing has run hot and cold. This coming Thursday the Betty W will run open boat for bluefish.

Charlie at **Caraftis Bros. Fishing Station** said there are a lot of porgies being caught at Old Field Point. Fluke are being taken west of the inlet and 800 feet off White Beach drifting big spearing. Fluke range from keepers to five pounds with many throwbacks. Snapper blues are taking trolled small spoons near the inlet and off the beach. Big blues to 12 pounds are taking deep (400' wire) trolled tubes off Cranes Neck. Bunker chunks are taking blues in the Harbor. School stripers in the Narrows on worm at night.

SMITHTOWN BAY

Blues everywhere said Tim at **Smithtown Sports Shop.** Be prepared to cast or troll. Three quarter ounce green Creek Chub poppers caught big blues past the last buoy at Nissequogue River. The Middle Grounds produced seven and eight pound blues with a 5-ounce black Tri-Fin and eight colors of lead line (240') out. Watch for the birds and be prepared to go upwind or tide of them and cast.

NORTHPORT

Pete Novellino of the **Jennie Three** reports his charter wanted Montauk fluke and they got plenty of them. Most of the fish were good sizes with some doormats of 8 to 9 pounds.

Pete at **Greenlawn Sports Shop** says they are live lining bunker at Target Rock and pulling in 20-35 pound bass. Twelve to 15 pound blues are taking trolled black tubes in Northport Bay. Blacks are in good at Hobart Beach.

HUNTINGTON

Capt. Don Constantin of the **Ever-Ready Fleet** called to say that fishing has been very good overall. On Sunday Joe Esterby of East Northport won a $32 pool with a 7½ pound weakfish. Capt. Don said that he will begin early morning bluefishing soon for those who want to get in a few hours fishing time before going to work. See his ad for further details.

George Valentine at **Four Winds Tackle** said eight to 12 pound blues were taking live bunker or chunks at Eatons Neck and off Marshall Field Estate. Smaller three to five pound blues surfaced Saturday and Sunday at the Lilco oil platform and east of there. Those who threw surface plugs at them were rewarded with many blues. Clam chummers at the rip off Eatons Neck are picking up five to 15 bass per boat. The fish go from schoolies to 20 pounds.

COLD SPRING HARBOR

Veteran's Fishing Station says there's plenty of blacks at Whitewood Point along with porgies. Where the Harbor meets the Sound there are loads of porgies and blues. A few fluke have been caught on the sand bottom at Whitewood Point. Bass fishing has just shown a few schoolies.

GLEN COVE

John Cacciola of **Glen Cove Sports** reports bluefish on bunker from shore. Snapper blues moved close to shore and are being caught by the surfmen. These same fishermen are taking bass with mackerel chunks if you can get them. Blues taking black or red large Capt. John Sekora tubes trolled deep about two miles north of the can off Loews. Very slow trolling of worms between the rocks are getting bass.

BAYVILLE

Bob Strecker of **Bayville Hardware** reports a little bit of everything being caught from both the shore and boat. No great quantities of blues and bass but consistent catches. Blackfish are among the rocks for those so inclined.

PORT WASHINGTON

Thelma at **Moreland's Bait & Tackle** said the snappers are being caught right off the dock. Blues are taking trolled surge lures in the Sound and bunker in the Bay. Wade Denning of Port Washington weighed in a 41 pound bass which took a live bunker near Sands Point.

CITY ISLAND

Jack's Bait & Tackle said there are lots of blues all over. They are being taken either on bait or trolling. Good sized fish to ten pounds are common. Very, very slowly trolled worms near Harts Island. Took five to 12 pound bass with one of 33½ pounds being taken by Andy Starace of City Island. He had ten other fish. Porgies are in at Orchard Beach and Harts Island.

The open boats **North Star, New Apache** and **Theresa L III** are all loading up on porgies and blacks.

All of these large cod were taken aboard Capt. Bud Dorman's Viking Skipper in the Block Island area. Capt. Bud noted that bluefish up to 22 lbs. have been picking up baits on the bottom.

CONNECTICUT SCENE

MAMARONECK

Mamaroneck waters produced one of the biggest officially weighed in bass for the area last week. The 56 lb. 8 oz. trophy was taken by Police Chief Lou Lifrieri on bunker. Blues, porgies & blacks are still excellent.

NEW ROCHELLE

Big bass are falling for bunker at Fort Slocum and Execution Light. Blues are about as well, porgies are in close as well as blacks.

RYE

Another 50 pound bass fell for bunker in this area, offshore among the rocks. Blues are hot off Playland with schoolie bass mixed in.

WHITE PLAINS

Big bass on bunker here too. Blues from 4-7 lbs. ranging throughout the area. Rumor has it that there is "something tremendous" among the schools of fish. Anglers have had IT on for up to an hour and finally losing it.

WESTPORT

Penfield is producing schoolies to 20 lbs. on swimmers for a local plugging enthusiast. Porgies and blacks at Sunken Island. Weaks on sandworms at Brown's Point.

16 year old Larry Sharcoff of Deer Park, with 30 odd blues trolled at Northow Pt., Brooklyn, using wire line down deep and red & green Bingle Lancers, on the outgoing tide. Biggest Fish 13½ lbs.

BYRAM

Blues, bass and weaks are in close around Port Chester and Byram harbors. Chunk baits, trolling and casting have all produced. Blues near Captain's Island, blacks and porgies just outside the harbor.

GREENWICH

Bass are big and available at Tweed's, Todd's Point, Island Beach and throughout the area. 2 50's, a 44 and a 49 were weighed in to back-up this report. Weaks are inside Greenwich Cove.

STAMFORD

Bass and blues have taken up residence at the Cows. Blacks and porgies are everywhere on bait.

ROWAYTON

The Norwalk Islands are producing some great bass catches. Fish from 30-40 pounds and better are becoming common. Bunker baits are the thing.

NORWALK

Schoolies and weaks around the islands. Weaks are best near buoy 24A. Harbor blues are in the Norwalk Harbor. Big bass on bunker at the islands.

BRIDGEPORT

Small blues in and around Bridgeport Harbor. Fluke fishing is good anywhere there is a sandy bottom. School bass are plentiful. Big blues from the Middle Ground.

STRATFORD

Bunker producing bass to 35 lbs. at Fayerweather. Fluke fishing the best in many years. Harbor blues and schoolies at the mouth of the Housatonic.

MILFORD

School bass on the beach from Stratford Beach to Woodmount. Sweetned Hopkins and bucktails are producing. Blackfish are abundant. Taylor blues are thick. Fluke fishing is excellent. Killies and sandworms are producing.

WESTHAVEN

Taylor blues are at the Sandbar. Bigger blues are out by the breakwaters. Bass on bunker, blacks & porgies all over.

ATTENTION: ROD & GUN CLUBS

The Long Island Fisherman will publish items relating to club news as they become available. Our only limitation is sufficient space, so news will be published on a "first-come, first served" basis.

Send releases to:

CLUB NEWS
c/o Glenn Voparil
P.O. Box 143
Deer Park, N.Y. 11729

NEW JERSEY Fishing Report

SANDY HOOK

The Chum Box reports lots of fluke action on killies and squid in Ambrose Channel, the old coast guard station and near the Ammo Pier. Striper action is slowing, but weakfish are coming up at the Knol and along the beaches in greater quantities. Offshore bluefish action is superb for chummers.

SEABRIGHT

Giglio's reported the fluking is good both in the rivers and along the jetties. Stripers are picking at clams and worms. There are lots of snappers along the ocean and at the bridges.

LONG BRANCH

The Long Branch Pier has had good catches of fluke up to 6 pounds and a few weakfish are now starting to show.

Steven's Tackle said jettie fishermen are catching fluke "like mad" at Deal, Long Branch & Mommouth. A few bass are being caught at night on sandworms and rigged eels. Russ Wilson and George Chapman had weaks to 6 lbs., 14 fluke, a mess of harbor blues and an 8 lb. striper fishing in cartoppers at Long Branch on Sunday.

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AUGUST 24 & 25, 1974

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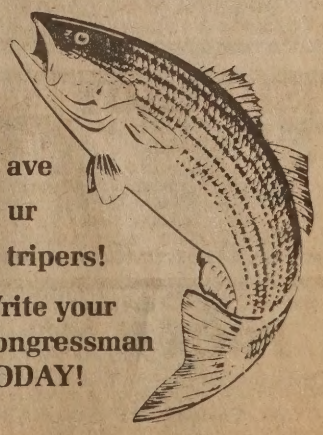

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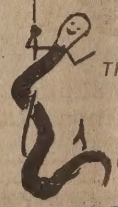

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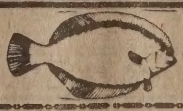

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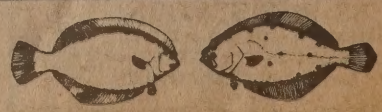

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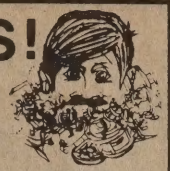

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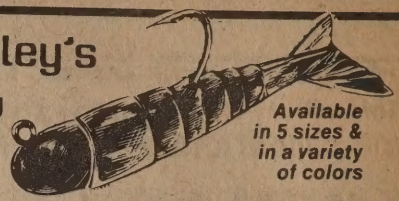

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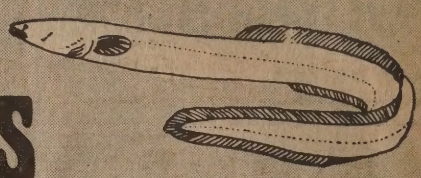

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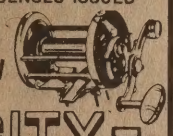
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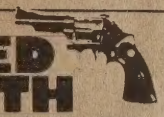
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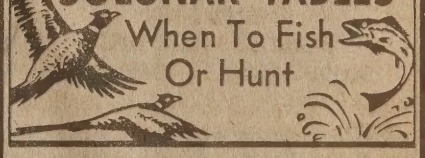

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

Thurs.	3:50	**10:35**	4:25	**11:05**
Fri.	4:45	**11:30**	5:20	-
Sat.	5:40	**12:05**	6:20	**12:35**
Sun.	6:45	**1:05**	7:15	**1:35**
Mon.	7:50	**2:10**	8:20	**2:35**
Tues.	8:40	**3:05**	9:15	**3:30**
Weds.	9:45	**4:00**	10:10	**4:25**
Thurs.	10:40	**4:55**	11:05	**5:20**

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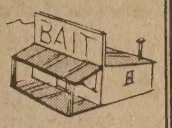

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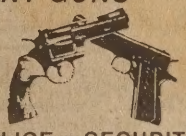
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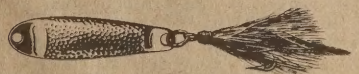

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1958 LUHRS SKIFF - gray marine model #109. Sleeps 2, head, canvas, compass, automatic bilge pump, spare parts. Very good condition. In water. Call after 6 p.m. (516) 543-3464

1968 JOHNSON, 100 H.P. OUTBOARD - 1970 power head - good condition - needs some work; with extras. $325.00 as is. Call (516) 273-5637

26 ft. BECKER SEA SKIFF - 225 gray marine - new bunk cushions - bow rail - radio - outriggers - just passed Coast Guard inspection - good boat - slip paid until November. $1800. Call (212) GL 6-7308

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22' LUHRS SKIFF, 185 Chris-Craft V8, D/F, compass
1972, 31 ft. CHRIS-CRAFT CATALINA, twin 235's, less than 20 hrs. on boat, mint cond.
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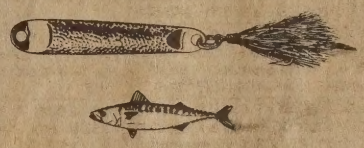

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TIDE TABLES

	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
7/18 THURSDAY	7:27	7:46	8:52	9:08	10:53	11:09	10:56	11:13
7/19 FRIDAY	8:20	8:36	9:44	10:01	11:50	-	11:47	-
7/20 SATURDAY	9:10	9:26	10:36	10:55	12:06	12:44	12:05	12:38
7/21 SUNDAY	10:02	10:18	11:27	11:48	1:00	1:36	12:56	1:28
7/22 MONDAY	10:55	11:11	-	12:21	1:54	2:28	1:47	2:18
7/23 TUESDAY	11:50	-	12:43	1:16	2:48	3:22	2:40	3:09
7/24 WEDNESDAY	12:04	12:43	1:40	2:15	3:46	4:21	3:33	4:02
7/25 THURSDAY	12:57	1:36	2:40	3:16	4:52	5:27	4:28	4:57

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
(Inlet,Breakwater & Dctn. Pt.)	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0 00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

PHASES OF THE MOON

7-19	7-26	8-3	8-11
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

TO

030272-
E.W. HOCKER
53 LOCUST AVE.
ISLIP, N.Y. 11751